MoU for fire retardant coaches

1480. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in 2005 Government entered in Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with French National Railway seeking technical assistance for manufacture of fire retardant coaches;

(b) if so, whether the MoU is still valid;

(c) if not, whether Government is taking steps to revalidate the MoU; and

(d) whether it is not a fact that if the MoU were executed in time then perhaps many lives could be saved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAY (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No MoU has been signed or entered into with French National Railways in 2005. However, an MoU between Ministry of Railways and French National Railways (SNCF) was signed in January, 2004 for promotion of cooperation in the rail sector. The MoU valid for 3 years was further extended by 1 year up to January, 2008. The MoU did not specifically identify technical assistance for manufacture of fire retardant coaches.

One of the areas identified for obtaining technical expertise from SCNF was for acquiring a software suited to Indian conditions simulated fire related studies in passenger carrying rail vehicles. Sanction of Ministry of Railways has been accorded for acquiring this software from SNCF.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Fund for existing projects

1481. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways need Rs. 60,000 crores to complete all the existing rail projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are details of on-going rail projects on the ECoR system and what is the time-frame within which these would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As on 1.4.07 throwforward of projects under New Line, Gauge Conversion, Doubling, Railway Electrification and Metropolitan Transport Project is Rs. 61487 crore. There are 103 New Line, 66 Gauge Conversion, 164 Doubling, 28 Railway Electrification and 15 Metropolitan Transport projects appearing in the Budget 2007-08 out of which 80 projects have already been completed.

(c) Details of ongoing rail projects under the East Coast Railway is as under:-

SI. No.	Plan Head	Name of Project	Length In Kms.	Cost	Expenditure upto March, 07	Outlay during 07-08	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	New Line	Lanjigarh Road-Junagarh	56	142	37	12.00	Earthwork, bridgework and land acquisition taken up.
2	New Line	Khurda Road-Bolangir	289	700	68	20.00	Final location survey completed, earthwork, bridge work and land acquisition taken up.
3	New Line	Haridaspur-Paradeep	82	594.34	69	20.00	Under execution by RVNL through SPV mode and work on Mahanadi and Luna bridges taken up.-
4	New Line	Angul-Sukinda Road	98.76	344	1	12.00	Under execution by RVNL through SPV mode and land acquisition taken up.
5	New Line	Talcher-Bimlagarh	154	790.08	2	15.00	Final location survey completed, detailed estimate is under process of sanction.
6	Gauge Conversion	Naupada-Gunupur	90	91.3	62	25.00	Land acquisition, earthwork, bridge works taken up.
7	Doubling	Talcher-Cuttack-Paradeep (2nd Bridges on Mahanadi and Birupa)	3	122	54	64.00	Bridge on Birupa river completed and the bridge on Mahanadi is under execution by RVNL through ADB funding and planned for completion during 2007-08.
8	Doubling	Titlagarh-Lanjigarh	47	150	146	15.00	34 Kms. completed and balance 13 Kms. is targeted for completion during 2007-08.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	Doubling	Rajatgarh-Barang	29.32	242.87	24	86.00	Under execution by RVNL through ADB funding. Final location survey completed and work of bridges road bed and track linking taken up.
10	Doubling	Khurda Road-Puri (PH-I)	15.3	68.71	58	5.00	Work is nearing completion.
11	Doubling	Sambalpur-Rengali	22.7	60.36	40	25.00	Targeted for completion during 2007-08.
12	Doubling	Khurda Road-Barang 3rd line	35	207	23	88.00	Under execution by RVNL through ADB funding. Work of road bed, bridges, ballast, track taken up.
13	Doubling	Cuttack-Barang	12.3	178.98	47	55.00	Under execution by RVNL through ADB funding. Work of road bed, bridges, ballast, track taken up.
14	Doubling	Jharsuguda-Rengali	25.96	91.41	2	17.00	Final location survey completed and detailed estimate sanctioned. Work is being taken up.
15	Doubling	Sambalpur-Titlagarh	182	474.25	0	10.00	Detailed estimate is under process of sanction.
16	Doubling	Raipur-Titlagarh	203	614.35	0	1.00	Preparation of plans and estimates taken up.
17	Railway Electrification	Kharagpur-Bhubaneshwar including Talcher-Paradeep	540	406.51	392	2.00	450 Kms. energized and electrification on Cuttack-Paradeep taken up.
18	Doubling	Vizianagram- Kottavalasa 3rd line	34.7	167.67	0	10.00	Final Location Survey completed.
19	Doubling	Kottavalasa-Simhachalam North 4th line	16.69	86.32	0	20.00	Final Location Survey completed.